

Claims

*a* What is claimed is:

1. Vehicle door consisting of at least one support element (12), at least one outer panel element (14) and optionally an interior panel element (16), in which the support element (12) contains at least one hinge, hinge plate or similar moving element (18) and/or a closure element (20) or the support element (12) is or can be connected to the latter, wherein the support element (12) has a service opening (22) on its outer side (12A) and the service opening (22) can be closed off by means of the outer panel element (14), in particular, with the support element (12) already installed in the vehicle,  
characterized in that the outer panel element (14) is or can be provided in at least part of its edge zones (14A) with an adjustable spacing element (26) for precisely positioned fastening of the outer panel element (14) to the support element (12) and/or the stiffening element (24).
2. Vehicle door according to Claim 1, characterized in that the spacing element (26) is a settable plastic.
3. Vehicle door according to Claim 2, characterized in that the settable plastic is a heat-sensitive adhesive.
4. Vehicle door according to Claim 3, characterized in that the heat-sensitive adhesive is reversibly heat-sensitive.
5. Vehicle door according to any of the Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the spacer element (26) also serves as connecting element of the outer panel element (14) with the support element (12) or with the stiffening element (24).

6. Vehicle door according to any of the Claims 1 to 5 characterized in that the spacer elements are movable and adjustable in at least two directions of space.
- 5 7. Vehicle door according to any of the Claims 1 to 6, characterized by at least one elongated, in particular, frame-shaped stiffening element (24) for the outer panel element (14) and/or the support element (12), preferably provided in the edge areas of the service opening.
- 10 8. Vehicle door according to any of the Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the stiffening element (24) or the outer panel element can be detachably joined to the support element (12).
- 15 9. Vehicle door according to Claim 8, characterized in that the stiffening element (24) has a continuous sealing surface (24A) with respect to the support element (12).
- 20 10. Vehicle door according to any of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the support element (12) and the outer panel element (14) form, in particular, a completely enclosed hollow chamber (28).
- 25 11. Method of assembling a vehicle door according to any of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the preassembled vehicle door is firstly mounted and adjusted to the vehicle body and thereafter the outer panel element (14) of the door is brought into contact with an adjustable spacing element (26) being intermediate to the mounted door, and thereafter bringing the outer panel element (14) into its final position under adjustment action of the adjustable spacing element (26), and then fixing the adjustable spacing element (26) in its final position or configuration.
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- 5 12. Method for disassembling the outer panel element (14) of a vehicle door (10) according to any of the Claims 1 to 10, characterized by heating a heat-sensitive spacer element 26B being used as said adjustable spacing element (26) with heating means (26C) being mounted to the vehicle door (10) and removing the outer panel element (14) afterwards.